

I am asking for your support for Connecticut SB-4, AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT CLEAN AIR ACT- *To reduce carbon emissions by expanding public and private utilization of electric vehicles in Connecticut to protect human health and the environment.* I am a Glastonbury resident as well as one of the owners of Bicycles East, a local bike shop in Glastonbury that includes electric assist bicycles in our offering. I am writing in support of a proposed change to the [Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Rebate](#) (CHEAPR) program which currently excludes electric bicycles from eligibility for rebates, specifically for the removal of the price cap regarding which bikes are eligible. Unfortunately, due to a variety of issues, some related to the material and freight price increases that we have all been seeing, the costs of these bicycles have continued to rise over the past couple of years, with most quality e-bikes selling for over \$2000, and most of the ones that are ideal for serving as commuter bikes, substituting for car rides, sell for over \$3000 and \$4000. I wish this were not the case, but it is the current reality.

These types of bicycles can serve to replace cars for both short and longer rides, becoming a more-affordable option for many people. In addition to the initial cost-savings of purchasing an e-bike rather than a reliable car, there are ongoing savings in gasoline (as there is none), insurance (also none needed), and maintenance. Other benefits include increased health and fitness and environmental benefits.

I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have about e-bikes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Debra Dauphinais

264 Woodfield Crossing, Glastonbury, CT 06033

860-209-0982